

Things To Do In Houston – revision as of March 16, 2008

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OUTINGS

NOTE: First the bad news – public transport in the Houston area is generally poor. All of these outings will be easier and cost you much less if you have access to your own car (rented or otherwise). For those who might want to go on an outing even without their own car, I have estimated cab fare. For those who would rather hire a town car and a driver, expect to pay \$40 - 50 per hour.; you may be able to negotiate. For more information on transportation, call Doug Pantel at 713.828.6576.

NASA – The Johnson Space Center

www.spacecenter.org

Directions: The Space Center is about 30 miles southeast from the wedding hotels. The drive there should take approximately 45 minutes. Taxi fare to go to and from the Space Center would be approximately \$140.

Hours: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. weekdays; 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. weekends

Tickets: \$19 for adults, \$15 for kids, \$18 for seniors; parking for \$5

“Level 9 Tour” Info: <http://spacecenter.org/Level9Tour.html>

Galveston Island

Comment: This is a fun beach town not too far from Houston with quite a lot of attractions besides the beach. Highlights include walking along the Strand and the Moody Gardens. There is also a new water park, Schlitterbahn, at Galveston.

Directions: Galveston Island is about an hour’s drive (55 miles) from the wedding hotels. Cab fare to and from Galveston should cost approximately \$240.

www.galveston.com

Clear Lake - Kemah Boardwalk

www.kemahboardwalk.com

Comment: Lots of games and rides for kids, restaurants, and you can walk along the water. The Keemah Boardwalk has a carnival atmosphere.

Directions: The Kemah Boardwalk is about 37 miles southeast from the wedding hotels. It is fairly close to the Johnson Space Center, so it might be possible to combine Nasa and the Kemah Boardwalk into one big outing. Cab fare to and from the Kemah boardwalk would run about \$170.

Address: 215 Kipp Ave.
Kemah, TX 77565
1-877-AT-KEMAH

PARK AND ZOO

Hermann Park:

www.hermannpark.org

NOTE: Hermann Park and the Houston Zoo are right next to each other. You should be able to find parking at the Zoo, and you can just walk to the park or zoo. The main parking lots are off of Golf Course Drive and Zoo Circle. Parking is free. It is also fairly easy to walk to the Houston Museum of Natural Science and even MFAH from here – for more information, see the section on Museums.

Houston Zoo

1513 N. MacGregor
Houston, TX 77030
713.533.6500

www.houstonzoo.org

NOTE: The Houston Zoo has one of our favorite collections of primates, orangutans in particular! If you go to the zoo, please say hello to the younger oranges Elok and Solaris from us.

Daylight Savings Time - 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.(Last ticket sold at 6:00 p.m.) Central Standard Time - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.(Last ticket sold at 5:00 p.m.) The Zoo is CLOSED on Christmas Day.

\$10 per adult and children over age 12 years (12 - 64); \$5 per child (ages 2 - 11); \$5.75 per senior (ages 64+); \$ 2 for Wildlife Carousel; \$ 1 for Wildlife Carousel for members; Free admission for members and children under 2 years;

Free days for everyone: Martin Luther King Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, the Friday after Thanksgiving

FOOD

Restaurants: Organic Vegetarian

T'afia – organic vegetarian

3701 Travis

Houston, TX 77002

713.524.6922

www.tafia.com

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Hobbit Cafe – organic vegetarian

2243 Richmond Ave

Houston, TX 77098

713.526.5460

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Whole Foods – organic vegetarian café and market

2955 Kirby Dr.

Houston, TX 770098

713.520.1937

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Finer Dining:

Da Marco

1520 Westheimer Road

Houston, TX 77008

713.807.8857

\$\$\$\$

Tony's – new american

www.tonyshouston.com

3755 Richmond Ave.

Houston, TX 77046

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400 Sage – sushi

2800 Sage Road

Houston, TX 77056

713.961.9566

\$\$\$

Armando's – Mexican

2630 Westheimer Road

Houston, TX 77098

713.520.1738

\$\$\$

La Griglia - Italian

www.lagrigliarestaurant.com

2002 West Gray

Houston, TX

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Fleming's Steakhouse

2405 W. Alabama St.

Houston, TX 77098

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Casual Dining:

Goode Company Barbeque (Doug's favorite)

5109 Kirby Dr.

Houston, TX 77098

<http://www.goodecompany.com/goodeRestaurantBBOKirby.aspx>

\$

Beck's Prime – burgers (again Doug's favorite; many locations in Houston)

2615 Augusta Drive

Houston, TX 77057

713.266.9901

www.becksprime.com

\$

Gravitas

807 Taft

Houston, TX 77019

713.522.0995

www.gravitasrestaurant.com

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SHOPPING:

Galleria – High end shopping close to the wedding hotels!

Neiman Marcus, Tiffany, Louis Vuitton, Zara, Nordstrom, Saks Fifth Avenue

www.galleriahouston.com

Highland Village

Tootsie's, Anthropologie, Crate and Barrell, Z Gallerie, West Elm, Restoration Hardware, Joseph's

www.shophighlandvillage.com

River Oaks Shopping Center
Harold Powell, Events, Sur La Table
www.riveroaksshoppingcenter.com

MUSEUMS

Museum District:
www.houstonmuseumdistrict.org

Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH)

1001 Bissonnet Street
Houston, TX 77005
713.639.7300
<http://www.mfah.org>

Note: There is a large parking garage at the MFAH main campus. The entrance is on Binz St. and is marked by a large yellow arrow. Parking costs \$3 per day. From this parking garage, the MFAH buildings, the Cullen Sculpture Garden, and the Contemporary Arts Museum are all in easy walking distance.

Museum Admission
Tuesday and Wednesday: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Thursday: 10:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday: 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Sunday: 12:15 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
Closed Mondays, except some holidays

Adults: \$7 per adult
Seniors and children: \$3.50
Free for children under 5
Free admission on Thursdays

Pompeii Exhibit:

Tuesday & Wednesday	10:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. last entry at 3:30 p.m.
Thursday	10:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. last entry at 7:30 p.m.
Friday & Saturday	10:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. last entry at 5:30 p.m.
Sunday	12:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. last entry at 5:30 p.m.

Monday

Closed to public, school tours only. Schools may contact 713-639-7324 or email tours@mfaah.org

Ticket Prices

Adults (non-member) **\$17.00 Tues through Sun**

Seniors (65+)
Students (with ID)
Children (6-18) **\$13.00 Tues through Sun**

MFAH Members **\$7.00**

Single-Use Untimed Ticket Prices

General Public **\$25.00**

Members **\$10.00**

Menil Collection
Open Wednesday -Sunday 11 am - 7 pm;
Closed Mondays and Tuesdays.
Free admission.

1515 Sul Ross
Houston, TX 77006
713.525.9400
www.menil.org

The Rothko Chapel
Open every day of the year from 10 am -6 pm.
Free admission

1409 Sul Ross
Houston, TX 77006
713.524.9839
www.rothkochapel.org

Byzantine Fresco Chapel Museum
Open 11:00 am to 6:00 pm;
Wednesday - Sunday
Free admission

4011 Yupon
Houston, TX 77006
713.521.3990
www.menil.org/byzantine.html

Rienzi
1406 Kirby Drive
Houston, TX 77019
713.639.7800
www.mfah.org/rienzi

Hours

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday - Friday
reservations required 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. last admission

Saturday
no reservations required, tours offered every 30 minutes 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. last admission

Sunday
open house format 1:00 p.m.– closing at 5:00 p.m.

Rienzi is closed on most national holidays and the month of August.

Admission

\$6 Adults

\$4 MFAH Members, senior adults (65+), college students with ID, and children (12–18) accompanied by an adult

\$100 Group Tour: Up to 20 people for one hour

\$200 Group Tour: 21–40 people for two hours

Guided tours are for children ages 12 and above only.

Admission on Sunday

\$5 Individual

\$10 Family of 2–4

\$15 Family of 5–6

\$20 Family of 7–8

Families, including all children accompanied by adults, are welcome.
No MFAH Member discount is offered on Sundays.

Self-Guided Garden Tours

Hours

Wednesday - Sunday 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (Gates close at 5:00 p.m.)

Admission

Free admission to Rienzi Gardens.

Bayou Bend
1 Westcott Street
Houston, TX 77007
713.639.7750
www.mfah.org/bayoubend

Hours

Tuesday–Friday	10:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.–2:45 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m.–11:15 a.m.

90-minute tours offered every 15 minutes.

Admission

\$10 Adults
 \$8.50 Senior adults (65+), and college students with ID
 \$5 Children (10–17)
 MFAH Members receive a \$2.00 discount per admission.

Self-Guided Audio Home Tours**Regular Hours**

Saturday and Sunday	1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.
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Last admission, 3:30 p.m.

Regular Admission

\$10 Adults
 \$8.50 Senior adults (65+), and college students with ID
 \$5 Children (10–17)
 Free Children (9 and under)
 MFAH Members receive a \$2.00 discount per admission.

Self-Guided Audio Garden Tours**Hours**

Tuesday-Saturday	10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Sunday	1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

Last admission, 4:00 p.m.

Admission

\$3 Adults
 Free Children (9 and under)
 There is no MFAH Member discount for Self-Guided Garden Tours.

Contemporary Arts Museum
 5216 Montrose
 Houston, TX 77006
 713.284.8250
www.camh.org

Open Tuesday-Saturday 10 am - 5 pm;
 Thursday 10 am - 9 pm
 Sunday Noon - 5 pm.
 Closed Mondays, Thanksgiving Day,

Christmas Day and New Year's Day.
ALWAYS FREE

Design Life Now: National Design Triennial
January 26 – April 20, 2008

In the Zilkha Gallery:
Perspectives 160: Dawoud Bey
March 14 – May 11, 2008

Children's Museum
1500 Binz
Houston, TX 77004
713.522.1138
www.cmhouston.org

Open Tuesday - Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sunday: Noon - 5 p.m.
Note: The Museum will be OPEN Mondays, March 17 & 24, but will close on Easter Sunday, March 23

\$5 per person; \$4 Seniors 65+; \$3 after 3 p.m.
Free admission for museum members & children under 2; Free Thursdays from 5 - 8 p.m.

Museum of Health
1515 Hermann Drive
Houston, TX 77004
713.521.1515
www.thehealthmuseum.org

Open Tuesday - Saturday 9 am - 5 pm;
Sunday noon - 5 pm;
Free every Thursday 2 pm - 7 pm
Special exhibits may require an additional fee
Admission is \$6 per adult; \$5 per child (ages 3-17); \$5 per senior (ages 65+); Free for members and children 2 years of age and younger.

Museum of Natural Science
One Hermann Circle Drive
Houston, TX 77030
713.639.4629
www.hmns.org

Mon-Sat: 9am-5pm
Sun: 11am-5pm

IMAX

Monday – Saturday	10 am - 6 pm (last show)
Sunday	11 am - 6 pm (last show)

Permanent Exhibit Halls

Monday – Saturday	9 am - 6 pm
Sunday	11 am - 6 pm
Tuesday	9 am - 8 pm

Special Exhibitions

Lucy's Legacy: The Hidden Treasures of Ethiopia Aug. 31, 2007 - April 27, 2008

Monday – Saturday	9 am - 6 pm (last entry at 5 pm)
Sunday	11 am - 6 pm (last entry at 5 pm)
Tuesday	9 am - 8 pm (last entry at 7 pm)

CSI: The Experience Feb. 1, 2008 - April 30, 2008

Monday – Saturday	9 am - 6 pm (last entry at 5 pm)
Sunday	11 am - 6 pm (last entry at 5 pm)
Tuesday	9 am - 8 pm (last entry at 7 pm)

Leonardo da Vinci: Man, Inventor, Genius March 7, 2008 - September 1, 2008

Monday – Saturday	9 am - 6 pm (last entry at 5 pm)
Sunday	11 am - 6 pm (last entry at 5 pm)
Tuesday	9 am - 8 pm (last entry at 7 pm)

Planetarium

Monday – Friday	10 am - 6 pm (last show)
Saturday - Sunday	11 am - 6 pm (last show)

Butterfly Center

Monday – Saturday	9 am - 5 pm (last entry at 4 pm)
Sunday	11 am - 5 pm (last entry at 4 pm)

	Exhibits (all day)	Butterfly Center (all day)	Planetarium (per show)	IMAX® (per show)
Members	Free	\$4	\$4	\$6
Adults	\$10	\$8	\$6	\$10
Child (3-11)	\$7	\$6	\$5	\$8

Senior (62+)	\$7	\$6	\$5	\$8
College Student*	\$7	\$6	\$5	\$8